

AMENDMENT TO CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A plasmid comprising:
a primer sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the primer sequence being capable of annealing to at least a first portion of a polypeptide encoding portion of a nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide;
a collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the collar sequence being capable of annealing to at least a second portion of the polypeptide encoding portion of the nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide, the second portion of the polypeptide encoding portion of the nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide being separated by at least 20 nucleotides from the first portion of the polypeptide encoding portion of the nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide; and
at least one restriction site located between the primer and collar sequences.
2. (currently amended) A plasmid as in claim 1 wherein the primer and collar sequences are capable of annealing to first strand cDNA ~~encoding a polypeptide~~.
3. (currently amended) A plasmid as in claim 1 wherein the primer and collar sequences are capable of annealing to mRNA ~~encoding a polypeptide~~.
4. (original) A plasmid as in claim 1 wherein the primer and collar sequences are capable of annealing to mRNA encoding at least a portion of an antibody.
5. (currently amended) A plasmid as in claim 1 wherein the collar sequence is capable of annealing to the polypeptide encoding a portion of the nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide that is separated in the 5' direction from the polypeptide encoding portion of the nucleic acid to which the primer sequence is capable of annealing.

6. (original) A host cell transformed with a plasmid of claim 1.

Claims 7-22 (cancelled).

23. (currently amended) A plasmid comprising:

a downstream primer sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the downstream primer being capable of annealing to at least a first portion of an antibody encoding portion of mRNA ~~encoding at least a portion of an antibody~~;

an upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the upstream collar sequence being capable of annealing to at least a second portion of an antibody encoding portion of the mRNA ~~encoding at least a portion of an antibody~~; and

at least one restriction site located between the downstream primer sequence and upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid.

24. (original) A plasmid as in claim 23 wherein the upstream collar sequence is capable of annealing to a portion of the mRNA encoding a framework region of an antibody.

Claim 25 (cancelled).

26. (original) A plasmid as in claim 23 wherein the upstream collar sequence is capable of annealing to a portion of the mRNA encoding a framework region associated with a light chain of an antibody.

27. (original) A plasmid as in claim 23 wherein the upstream collar sequence is capable of annealing to a portion of the mRNA encoding a framework region associated with a heavy chain of an antibody.

28. (original) A plasmid as in claim 23 wherein the downstream primer is capable of annealing to a portion of the mRNA encoding a constant region of an antibody.

29. (original) A plasmid as in claim 23 wherein the downstream primer is capable of annealing to a portion of the mRNA encoding a constant region associated with a light chain of an antibody.

30. (original) A plasmid as in claim 23 wherein the downstream primer is capable of annealing to a portion of the mRNA encoding a framework two (FR2), framework three (FR3) or framework four (FR4) region associated with a light chain of an antibody.

31. (original) A plasmid as in claim 23 wherein the downstream primer is capable of annealing to a portion of the mRNA encoding a constant region associated with a heavy chain of an antibody.

32. (previously presented) A plasmid as in claim 23 wherein the downstream primer is capable of annealing to a portion of the mRNA encoding a framework two (FR2), framework three (FR3) or framework four (FR4) region associated with a heavy chain of an antibody.

33. (previously presented) A plasmid comprising:

a downstream primer sequence comprising SEQ. ID. NO: 4 incorporated into the plasmid, the downstream primer being capable of annealing to a first portion of mRNA encoding at least a framework region of an antibody;

an upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the upstream collar sequence being capable of annealing to a second portion of the mRNA encoding at least a portion of an antibody; and

at least one restriction site located between the downstream primer sequence and upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid.

34. (previously presented) A plasmid comprising:

a downstream primer sequence comprising SEQ. ID. NO: 8 incorporated into the plasmid, the downstream primer being capable of annealing to a first portion of mRNA encoding at least a portion of an antibody;

an upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the upstream collar sequence being capable of annealing to a second portion of the mRNA encoding at least a portion of an antibody; and

at least one restriction site located between the downstream primer sequence and upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid.

35. (previously presented) A plasmid comprising:

a downstream primer sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the downstream primer being capable of annealing to a first portion of mRNA encoding at least a portion of an antibody;

an upstream collar sequence comprising SEQ. ID. NO: 3 incorporated into the plasmid, the upstream collar sequence being capable of annealing to a second portion of the mRNA encoding at least a portion of an antibody; and

at least one restriction site located between the downstream primer sequence and upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid.

36. (previously presented) A plasmid comprising:

a downstream primer sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the downstream primer being capable of annealing to a first portion of mRNA encoding at least a portion of an antibody;

an upstream collar sequence comprising SEQ. ID. NO: 7 incorporated into the plasmid, the upstream collar sequence being capable of annealing to a second portion of the mRNA encoding at least a portion of an antibody; and

at least one restriction site located between the downstream primer sequence and upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid.

37. (original) A host cell transformed with a plasmid of claim 23.

Claims 38-72 (cancelled).

73. (original) A plasmid as in claim 1 wherein two restriction sites that are the same or different are located between the downstream primer and upstream collar sequences.

74. (original) A plasmid as in claim 23 wherein two restriction sites that are the same or different are located between the downstream primer and upstream collar sequences.

Claims 75-84 (cancelled).

85. (new) A plasmid comprising:

a downstream primer sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the downstream primer being capable of annealing to at least a first portion of a coding sequence of mRNA encoding at least a portion of a framework region associated with an antibody;

an upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the upstream collar sequence being capable of annealing to at least a second portion of the coding sequence of the mRNA encoding at least a portion of the framework region associated with the antibody; and

at least one restriction site located between the downstream primer sequence and upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid.

86. (new) A plasmid as in claim 85 wherein the upstream collar sequence is capable of annealing to a portion of the coding sequence of the mRNA encoding at least a portion of a framework region of a light chain associated with an antibody.

87. (new) A plasmid as in claim 85 wherein the upstream collar sequence is capable of annealing to a portion of the coding sequence of the mRNA encoding at least a portion of a framework region of a heavy chain associated with an antibody.

88. (new) A plasmid as in claim 85 wherein the downstream primer is capable of annealing to at least a portion of the coding sequence of the mRNA encoding a framework two (FR2), framework three (FR3) or framework four (FR4) region associated with a light chain of an antibody.

89. (new) A plasmid as in claim 85 wherein the downstream primer is capable of annealing to a portion of the coding sequence of the mRNA encoding a framework two (FR2), framework three (FR3) or framework four (FR4) region associated with a heavy chain of an antibody.

90. (new) A plasmid as in claim 85 wherein two restriction sites that are the same or different are located between the downstream primer and upstream collar sequences.

91. (new) A host cell transformed with a plasmid of claim 85.

92. (new) A plasmid comprising:

a downstream primer sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the downstream primer being capable of annealing to at least a first portion of a coding sequence of mRNA encoding at least a portion of a constant region associated with an antibody;

an upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the upstream collar sequence being capable of annealing to at least a second portion of the coding sequence of the mRNA encoding at least a portion of the constant region associated with the antibody; and

at least one restriction site located between the downstream primer sequence and upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid.

93. (new) A plasmid as in claim 92 wherein the downstream primer is capable of annealing to a portion of the coding sequence of the mRNA encoding a constant region associated with a light chain of an antibody.

94. (new) A plasmid as in claim 92 wherein the downstream primer is capable of annealing to a portion of the coding sequence of the mRNA encoding a constant region associated with a heavy chain of an antibody.

95. (new) A plasmid as in claim 92 wherein two restriction sites that are the same or different are located between the downstream primer and upstream collar sequences.

96. (new) A host cell transformed with a plasmid of claim 92.